

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MILAN 01239 161512Z
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SP-02 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00
NSAE-00 /030 W

-----107555 172041Z /64

R 160930Z AUG 78
FM AMCONSUL MILAN
TO /AMEMBASSY ROME 9063
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6124
AMCONSUL TURIN UNN
AMCONSUL NAPLES
AMCONSUL TRIESTE
AMCONSUL GENOA
AMCONSUL PALERMO
AMCONSUL FLORENCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MILAN 1239

LIMDIS

EO 11652: XGDS-1 DECLAS 11 AUG 1988
TAGS: PINT IT
SUBJECT: VIEWS OF CARDINAL OF MILAN

SUMMARY: MILAN'S CARDINAL GIOVANNI COLOMBO SAYS NON-
ITALIAN BISHOP COULD WELL SUCCEED PAUL VI. COLOMBO HAS
ACCEPTED INVITATION FORMER AMBASSADOR VOLPE VISIT BOSTON IN
MID SEPTEMBER 1978. END SUMMARY.

1. CARDINAL GIOVANNI COLOMBO, ENERGETIC AND SCHOLARLY
SUCCESSOR IN MILAN TO CARDINAL MONTINI INVITED ME FOR
TALK AUGUST 10 ON EVE HIS DEPARTURE FOR POPE'S FUNERAL.
2. AFTER EXPLAINING THAT HE HAD ACCEPTED FORMER AMBASSADOR
VOLPE'S INVITATION TO DEDICATE A SITE IN BOSTON IN HONOR OF
DON ORIONI, COLOMBO TURNED TO THE CONCLAVE WHICH HE WILL ATTEND.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MILAN 01239 161512Z

3. SINCE THE CONCLAVE HAD NOT YET OPENED, HE WAS NOT
BOUND BY ITS RULE OF SECRECY ABOUT ITS DISCUSSIONS, HE
EXPLAINED.

4. COLOMBO SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THE ELECTION OF A NON-
ITALIAN POPE WAS QUITE POSSIBLE. THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH,
HE SAID, WAS NOW MATURE ENOUGH FOR SUCH A POPE. HOWEVER, IN

ADDITION TO REQUIRING SPIRITUAL PRIMACY, THE MAN WOULD NEED TO KNOW ITALIAN WHICH WAS THE LINGUA FRANCA OF THE CHURCH IN ITALY, HE SHOULD KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT ITALY TO AVOID THE STUMBLING INTO SOME DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEM AND ABOVE ALL HE SHOULD KNOW THE BISHOPS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THEY WERE THE KEY TO THE CHURCH.

5. IT WAS THIS LATTER CONSIDERATION WHICH SUGGESTED TO HIM THAT CARDINAL SEBASTIANO BAGGIO WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT POPE. FOR YEARS IT HAD BEEN BAGGIO, HE SAID, WHO HAD PERSONALLY SCREENED THE CANDIDATES FOR ELEVATION TO BISHOP AND WHO RECOMMENDED THEM TO PAUL VI. HE THEREFORE KNEW THEM AROUND THE WORLD.

FINA

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, DEATHS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MILAN01239
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1 19880811
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780336-1252
Format: TEL
From: MILAN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780859/aaaabxhu.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 10fe8662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1723895
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIEWS OF CARDINAL OF MILAN SUMMARY: MILAN'S CARDINAL GIOVANNI COLOMBO SAYS NON- ITALIAN BISHOP COULD WELL SUCCEED PAUL VI. COLOMB
TAGS: PINT, IT, (COLOMBO, GIOVANNI)
To: ROME
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/10fe8662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014